

# The Shakerite

December 15, 2000 • Volume 71 • Issue 4 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

## take APEEK

### Sledding, anyone?

**3** Rick Jennings' solution to the stresses of holiday shopping, Opinion

### Talkin' revolution

**4** What would it take to start a revolution in this day and age? Our thoughts, Centerpiece

### Best of Shaker

**6** Find out the best place to slurp some H2O, the best place to park your Chevy and the number one spot to go number one, Feature

### So long, neighbor

**7** Our beloved Mr. Rogers is saying goodbye to the Land of Make Believe, A & E

### Holiday competition

**8** Looking for something to do over break? Check out the sports schedules, Sports

## in MEMORY

"She was just one of the sweetest things in the world," Latin teacher Jane Ulrich said of Emily Murray.

Sunday, Dec. 10, law enforcement officials found what they believed to be the body of Murray, a '98 Shaker graduate, in a mobile home in south-eastern Ohio.

Her car was found at the site. Murray, a student at Kenyon College, had been missing since Nov. 3, when she disappeared shortly after work.

During her time at Shaker, Murray participated in Semanteme and theater as a member of Senior Ensemble.



## Calculator theft continues to plague students

- Serial numbers of calculators now recorded to prevent crime

By Joseph Tartakoff  
News Co-editor

Sophomore Elissa Courtright was preparing to take the PLAN test when she saw a hand glide over her desk and grab her graphing calculator. She had been momentarily distracted by a conversation with a friend.

"I looked around and saw

these two guys. I knew one of them must have taken it. I asked them to give it back and they said that the only reason I was accusing them of stealing it was because they were black. Eventually they gave it back, though," she said.

Incidents such as Courtright's involving stolen calculators have

been a problem over the last several years at the high school, according to math department chairwoman Margaret Boles.

This fall, the math department began to record the serial numbers of students' graphing calculators to help identify them



Joseph Tartakoff/The Shakerite  
Teachers are engraving calculators as a measure to prevent theft.

SEE THEFT, PAGE 2

## Turning tunes into telegrams

- Singing telegrams fundraiser a success

By Jenny Heisler  
Co-editor in chief

"Have you been dying to tell that girl sitting across from you in second period how you feel about her?"

Anyone who heard this message every morning last week on the P.A. might have been inspired to buy a special someone a singing telegram.

The telegrams comprise a chorus from a song and a note from the sender and are sung by a small group of A Cappella Choir members. The available songs include *Stand By Me*, *Wild Thing*, *You Are My Sunshine* and several others.

"We started this basically to have fun before winter vacation," Student Council Vice President Sarah Morgenstern said. "It's for holiday cheer."

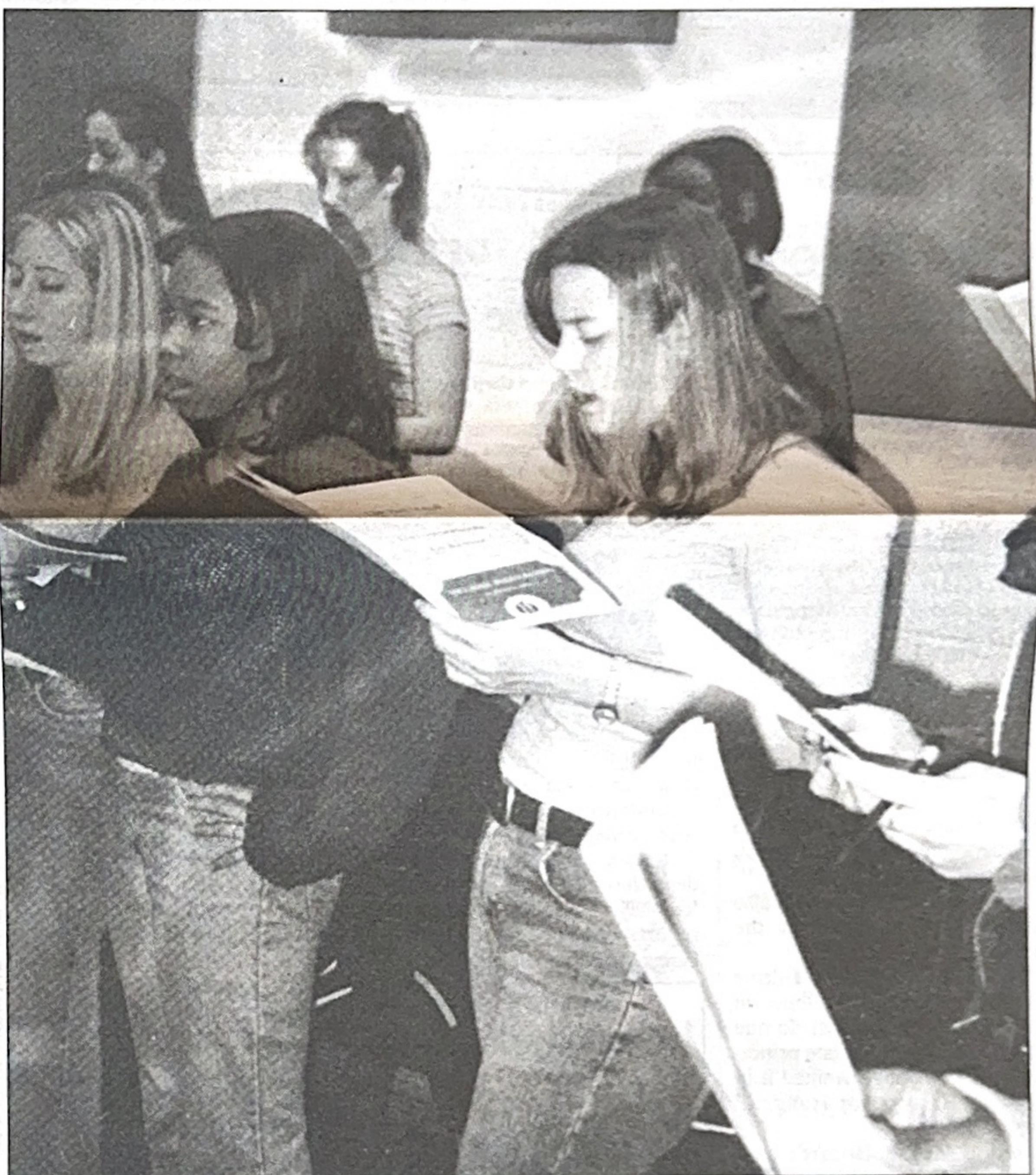
The telegrams will be sung today at the end of second period during the five minutes usually allotted for announcements. Only the chorus of the song will be performed, therefore no telegram will last for more than 50 seconds.

More than 200 of the \$1 telegrams were sold.

Student Council heard of the singing telegram idea at the Student Council LEL Symposium, hosted at Shaker Nov. 20.

The symposium is an annual meeting where representatives from several high schools get together to share successful ideas.

"I think it's a great idea," said senior Gwen Schermer, who purchased several telegrams for her friends.



Alissa Harvey, Tiffany Pinkney and Amelia Catalano rehearse winter concert music with the rest of the A Cappella Choir.  
When not busy preparing for their winter concert, choir members practiced singing telegrams.

## YEH comes to the rescue for area food center

- Emergency drive collects abundant donations

By Jennifer Broadbent  
News Co-editor

During the first week of December, science teacher Bill Scanlon's office was overflowing with food.

Only a few weeks before, Scanlon, the faculty adviser for Youth Ending Hunger, received a phone call from a Cleveland-area food bank asking for a food drive to replenish its diminishing stocks.

The Emergency Assistance Center asked for the help because its spring drive had ended in failure because of a downpour of rain.

"We only got half as much food due to the weather," said Tony Girolamo, food distribution coordinator for the food bank. "My belief is that it was all in God's plan because it got the schools and children involved."

The center attempts to combat poverty in the Cleveland area.

"We try to provide food for the elderly to keep them going and to children whose parents have addictions. We are faced with many problems — seniors with prescriptions not covered by Medicare, single parent fami-



The YEH emergency food drive was held Dec. 1-8.

SEE FOOD, PAGE 2

# SLINKY TIME FOR FRESHMAN SCIENCE!



Joseph Tarkoff/The Shakerite

Freshmen Joseph Lesnfsky, Catherine Lee and Jackie Gleisser study electromagnetic waves in their third period science class. Their teacher Monroe Kennedy had his physical Science students using very long and thin Slinkys to understand the two types of waves: transverse and longitudinal. "It really helped because there was a visual and it was fun. It helped you pay attention to what we were studying," Lee said.

## YEH food drive hailed a success

### FOOD FROM PAGE 1

niors with prescriptions not covered by Medicare, single parent families where a parent walked out or had a terminal illness."

Students from Youth Ending Hunger helped collect the food. "We sent notes to all the teachers about the food drive and asked them to allow students to leave cans in their rooms so we could come pick them up," said senior Youth Ending Hunger treasurer Rania Karim.

"Some teachers even gave their students incentives for bringing in cans."

Scanlon was pleased with the efforts of the club.

"I can't believe how much food we have. My classes alone have brought in more than 100 food items," he said.

Youth Ending Hunger will also sponsor a food drive in the spring.

"We have done a food drive every year. It used to be once in the fall, but now we just do one in the spring because [late principal] Jack Rumbaugh wanted it in line with Harvest for Hunger," Scanlon said.

Junior Megan Bozarth said that Youth Ending Hunger is involved in a wide variety of activities.

"We go to a lot of food banks and soup kitchens around the Cleveland area. This food drive is just an extension of that," she said.

"I sat in the cafeteria during my study hall and lunches to collect cans," said Brittany Eckstein, sophomore.

### Corrections

- The Stage Crew built the set of *Anything Goes*.
- Senior Lauren Williams was misidentified in Vol. 71, Issue 3.
- Brian Sutorius's name was misspelled in Vol. 71, Issue 2.
- Lynne Shima's name was written incorrectly in Vol. 71, Issue 3.

## Mathematics department initiates new method for identifying stolen calculators

### THEFT FROM PAGE 1

calculators, to help identify them if they are stolen. For the third straight year, the department has also made an engraver available to teachers. The device allows teachers to mark students' calculators with writing, most often names or initials. District security adviser Michael Klima said that in the past, the high school security office has been unable to identify stolen calculators when they are found.

"We have always found calculators in lockers at the end of the year. We keep them and try to match them with incident reports. If we can't match them after a year we make them available to unit principals for students who need them," he said.

Klima said that when students have their calculators stolen they should file an incident report with the security office. Boles said that disciplinary ac-

tion is taken when students are caught with stolen calculators.

"Most students who steal calculators sell them for as little as \$10 to students at Shaker or at other schools. We've caught students with stolen calculators and have had to take disciplinary action. It's a serious thing," she said.

The \$10 the students get for a resale pales compared to the price of the TI-89 graphing calculator model at The OfficeMax superstore in Warrensville Heights; the calculator is sold for as much as \$89.99 there.

Klima said that in most cases calculators are taken when students are careless.

"It isn't a different problem this year — there really hasn't been an increase in the number of calculators stolen. It's just that a lot of times people leave their calculators unattended," he said.

Boles agreed with this view, adding that theft of calculators does not take place only at Shaker.

**"Most students who steal calculators sell them for as little as \$10 to students at Shaker or other schools."**

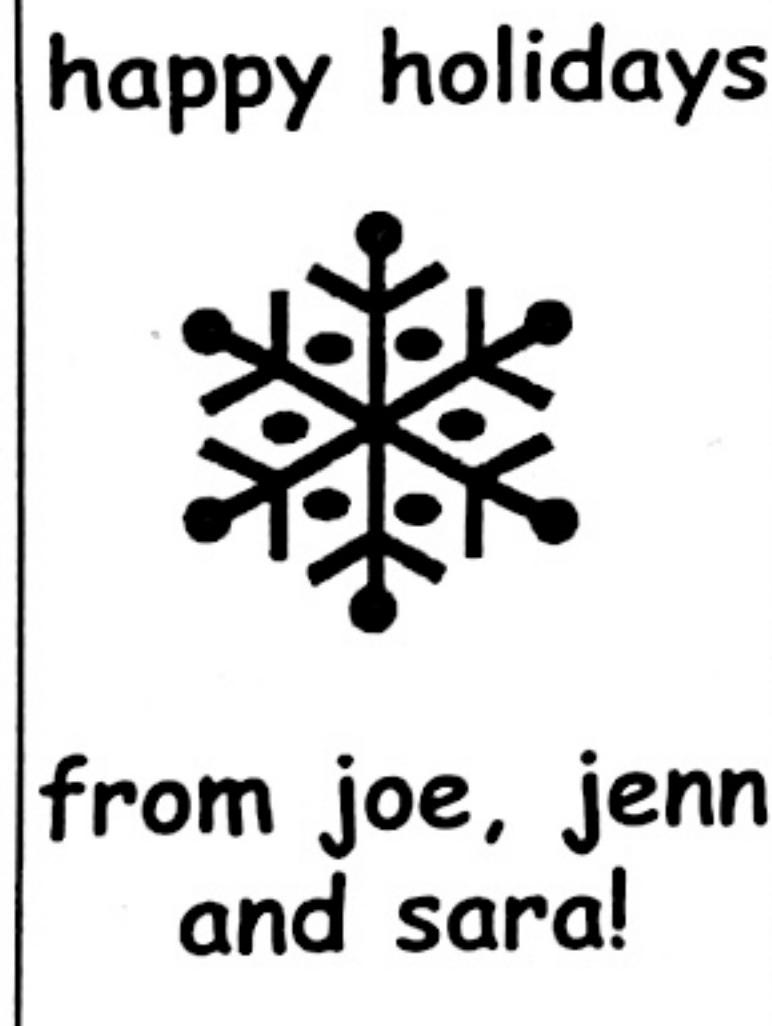
### MARGARET BOLES math department chair

"It's a problem everywhere. We're not unique. I think lots of students are careless about what they do with their calculators," she said.

Sophomore Abby Lavin left her calculator unattended at her desk and had it taken from her. "Last year in science I left my graphing calculator on my desk and went to talk to my teacher. When I returned it was gone. I never got it back," she said.

Senior Ilia Hall believes that the majority of calculators are stolen when they are unattended.

"I've heard about lots of people whose calculators have been stolen. I think that for the most part stuff's stolen when it's left alone," she said.



**Fairmount  
L•E•T•T•E•R•S**

---

Personalized Gifts &  
Stationery

●

3465 Fairmount Blvd.  
Cleveland Hts., OH 44118  
phone (216) 397-3915

Shaker Heights

Teachers' Association

**SHTA**

**Professionals  
Educating**

**Dedicated To  
Shaker's Youth**

## club NOTES

Club Notes appear monthly. Submit your club's information to *The Shakerite* via Natalie Sekicky's mailbox. Deadline for February listings is Feb. 15.

### Ski Club

Rod MacLeod, adviser information

We meet in the science wing to depart for Boston Mills ski resort 4 p.m. Fridays, in January and February.

The ski club still has a few seats left for our trips. Get information in Room 178-F. Rent or use your own equipment, ski, snowboard or snowblades. Ride the comfortable charter bus five times at Boston Mills, three probable trips to Brandywine. Five lessons to improve your skills.

### Spanish Honor Society

Norma Guice and Alisa Warhay, advisers information

The National Spanish Honor Society meets in Room 305 at 7:30 a.m. Listen to the P.A. for days of meetings.

Activities we participate in are the translation of documents for social work agencies, peer tutoring for Spanish students (1st through 3rd year); several students have won monetary prizes when their articles and poetry were included in the National Spanish Honor Magazine, *Albricias*.

The society will help host the Mexican students from the Universidad Del Valle De Mexico Exchange.

### Mano en Mano

Norma Guice, Alisa Warhay, Robert Weaver, advisers information

We meet in room 305. We announce the days of our meetings on the P.A.

Mano en Mano: Hispanic Connection is in its ninth year of existence. The club works to form friendships and give academic help to Cleveland's Hispanic community. As well as tutoring and donating monies and winter clothing, students participate with Hispanic students in social events such as the Fiesta Latina hosted by Alianza, the Hispanic Student Group.

### Environmental Club

Robert Sylak, adviser information

We meet in Room 175, Tuesdays. We handed out lollipops to everyone who recycled a can in the cafeteria and social room during the week of Dec. 4-7.

The first annual tobogganing will be held Jan. 29 after final exam make-ups.

### PTO Event

Christine Williams, PTO contact information

A forum on the use of drugs and alcohol and how they affect academic performance will be held on Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. at the high school.

Dr. Ted Parraan will be speaking. "He's the who's who on substance abuse and is also a wonderful human being," Williams said.

The forum is aimed at the high school community. The PTO invites students, faculty, parents and concerned community members.

**Shakerite**

Volume 71 • Issue 1

2000 Editorial Board of *The Shakerite*. All rights reserved.Jenny Heisler\*  
Anahid Thompson\*  
**CO-EDITORS IN CHIEF**Jennifer Broadbent  
Joseph Tartakoff  
**NEWS CO-EDITORS**Debra Kamin\*  
Rob Rains\*  
**OPINION CO-EDITORS**Julie Redline  
Lia Silver  
**CENTERPIECE CO-EDITORS**Liza Moody  
Rebecca Wolff  
**FEATURE CO-EDITORS**Meryl Kramer  
Sara Reichstein  
**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CO-EDITORS**Marianne Cronin  
Eric Edelsberg  
**SPORTS CO-EDITORS**Mary O'Connell  
**PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR**Rachel Hutt\*  
**COPYEDITOR**Rick Jennings  
**ART EDITOR**Natalie Sekicky  
**FACULTY ADVISER**Steve Kuwalek, Alex  
Madorsky, Matt Wallace  
**STAFF REPORTERS**Jay Gladden, Joseph  
Fungstang, Liza Moody,  
Armine Thompson  
**ART STAFF**

\*denotes member of editorial board

*The Shakerite* is a public forum published eight times yearly for and by the students of Shaker Heights High School.

Letters to the editor must be signed and may not exceed 200 words. Letters, subscription and advertising inquiries should be delivered to the *Shakerite* office in Room 229, or mailed to: *The Shakerite*, 15911 Alderside Drive, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120.

*The Shakerite* reserves the right to reject or edit any letter to the editor or advertisement.

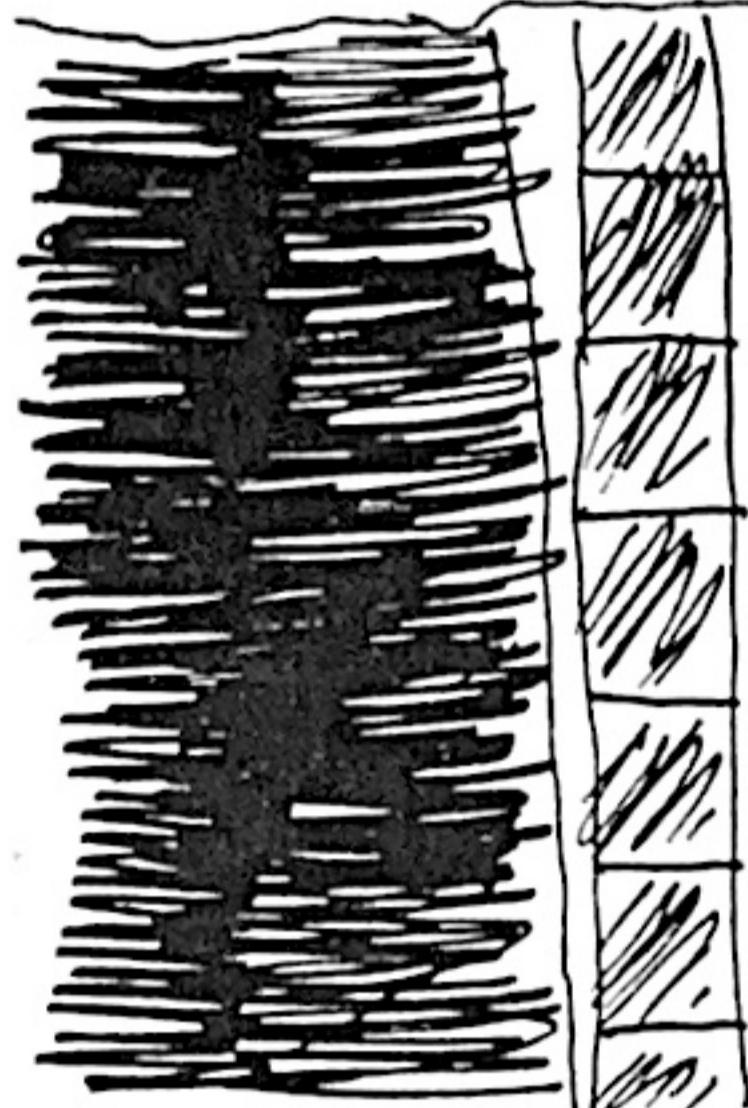
Opinions expressed in *The Shakerite* articles are those of their respective authors, and do not represent the views of *The Shakerite*, Shaker Heights High School or the Shaker Heights City School District.

The "Rite Idea" presents the views of the editorial board; however, it may not reflect the opinion of *The Shakerite* staff.

*The Shakerite* is composed electronically using MTT computers and is printed by PM Graphics, Inc. in Twinsburg.

*The Shakerite* is affiliated with:

- Columbia Scholastic Press Association
- National Scholastic Press Association
- Journalism Education Association
- Northeast Ohio Scholastic Press Association

**'rite ARTIST**AT THORTON PARK, THE  
EARLY KID GETS THE SNOW.AFTER ABOUT 2PM,  
YOU'RE OUTTA LUCK.

Rick Jennings/The Shakerite

**Cheers &  
JEERS****Cheers** to belts. They hold up your pants!**Jeers** to another crummy winter, first it rains then it snows. Stick with one already!**Cheers** to winter break, the best two weeks of your life!**Jeers** to anyone who starts a discussion on the election.**Cheers** to muffins. They're like eating cake for breakfast.**Jeers** to cheesy holiday sitcoms, like anybody cares if little Michelle celebrates Christmas.**letters to  
THE EDITOR****Shaker students display  
hateful acts in public**

To the editors,

Our school needs to make up its mind. The Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde approach just will not cut it anymore. On the one hand, we claim to be a socially-aware, civic-minded, SGORR-joining, racially harmonious student body. On the other hand, we chant "U.S. sucks dick" at hockey games, freely use words like *jap* and *nigger* in the school (but it's within our own ethnic groups so that's OK, right?) and eat at segregated lunch tables. What's it going to be Shaker?

Writing this letter was triggered by the embarrassing display of gay-bashing at the Shaker vs. U.S. hockey game. The casual use of hateful and bigoted language, the offensive signs and the homophobic cheers made me want to leave. People will defend this behavior by saying that it was just good fun; that it's a rivalry with deep-seeded roots that no one actually takes seriously. The reality is, however, that as a school we collectively condoned ignorance. We, the SGORR-joining, civic-minded, socially aware student body, said together in a unified voice that it's OK to stereotype, it's OK to discriminate, it's OK to hate.

It's time for us to make a choice. We must either be proponents of expanding awareness or ignorance. What's it going to be, Shaker?

A concerned student

*Editor's note:* *The Shakerite* normally does not print letters without a signature or proof that the letter is written by a Shaker Heights student or resident, but we have made an exception due to the potential consequences for the author.

**Profile of Chloe Hill incomplete without Silberman award info**

To the editor

as the mother of Shaker alumni, Amy M. Silberman and Andrew M. Silberman, I have continued to be an avid reader of your paper and a staunch supporter of the Shaker Theater. I attended the excellent production of *Anything Goes* and was, as always, thrilled with what these actors, dancers, singers, stagecraft people, set designers, choreographers, costumers and orchestra accomplished. No "professional" theater could have done better. I was therefore, delighted with your excellent article profiling Chloe Hill. I would have been a tad happier, however, if among all the quite deserved accolades you bestowed upon her, you had mentioned that Chloe was the recipient last May of the Amy Margolis Silberman Award for Excellence in Theater Arts Education.

Sincerely,  
Eudice M. Tracey

**The On the first day of Christmas  
TOP 10 my true love gave to me ...**

- 10 Days of eating
  - 9 Glasses of egg nog (special egg nog)
  - 8 Angry parents scolding you for your expose on Santa Claus
  - 7 911 calls
  - 6 hours of wrapping
  - 5 hours of complaining
  - 4 hours of sleeping
  - 3 missing gifts
  - 2 people lead off in squad cars
- and a bad headache Christmas morning



**"A little rebellion, now and then, is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical."**

-Thomas Jefferson, 1787

## Talking 'bout a revolution: Shaker students urge change

Sean Ferguson

CHANCES ARE, OUR COUNTRY GETS TO SPEND THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WITH EVERYONE'S FAVORITE TEXAN, GEORGE W. BUSH. I WOULDN'T COMPLAIN, BUT HE HAS NO POLITICAL EXPERIENCE, IS VERY CONSERVATIVE, AND IS NOT NEARLY AS INTELLIGENT AS ANY OF HIS COMPETITORS. ARE THOSE STANDARDS REALLY THAT DIFFICULT TO UPHOLD FOR THE FUTURE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA?

More often than not, it isn't the candidates' fault that they didn't get elected. The fault lies with the people of the United States as a whole. Barely more than half of the United States population voted in the last election, which means just more than 25 percent of our country's residents have picked our future president. Because people don't take the time to vote, nothing ever changes and the power never shifts hands. We, as a people, need to stop talking and start actually doing something. If you are too young to vote, campaign for your favorite candidate. Get involved and do SOMETHING!

You say you want a revolution? First decide on what is most screwed up in our political system. Is it the two-party system, with coverage of only the two main candidates from the two main parties? Is it the screwed up ballot system, which allows votes to be easily manipulated? Maybe it's that the margin between Democrats and Republicans is narrowing so much that the candidates are almost the same. I believe that ALL candidates should be given equal coverage by the media, even the extremists. I believe that a computer should count all ballots, with absolutely no human involvement. I think that the two party system and electoral college need to be eliminated, to allow democracy to really be "for the people." I wear Nader buttons, and I debate people who say that a "Vote for Nader is a Vote for Bush." I believe that Nader didn't cost Gore the election. Gore cost Gore the election. I know my beliefs, and I actually do something about them. If you can't say the same thing about yourself, then the only question is: WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GET INVOLVED?

Ashley Davies

EVERYONE SEEMS TO BE QUICK TO CLAIM VICTIM STATUS NOWADAYS. NO ONE SEEKS TO WANT TO CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR OWN ACTIONS ANYMORE. IT IS PARTICULARLY EVIDENT AT SHHS. AS I SIT IN MY CLASSES I HEAR STUDENTS SAY THINGS SUCH AS "MY TEACHER HATES ME, THAT'S WHY I'M DOING SO BAD." ALL I HAVE TO SAY TO THAT IS BOO HOO! THIS ISN'T EVEN THE REAL WORLD YET. START CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOURSELF. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS GOING TO HAPPEN WHEN YOU GET INTO THE WORKING WORLD AND YOU HAVE A BOSS YOU DON'T LIKE? THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT. IF YOU SAY THAT IT SUCKS TO BE YOU, WELL THEN SO BE IT.

THE PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY DO WELL IN THIS SCHOOL AND ALL OVER THE COUNTRY ARE GOING TO REVOLT ONE DAY, AND I'M JUST WARNING YOU. NO MORE HANDOUTS FROM THE PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY WORK REGULAR, STEADY NINE TO FIVE JOB, OR IN THIS CASE, NO MORE LETTING PEOPLE CHEAT OFF OF THEIR TESTS. THAT'S RIGHT. WE WILL NO LONGER BE AFRAID TO BREAK THE CURVE, OR MAKE IT. IT'S NOT OUR FAULT THAT YOU DIDN'T STUDY; IT'S YOURS.

NOW PEOPLE MAY SAY THAT THEY ARE VICTIMS OF CIRCUMSTANCE OR OF THEIR ENVIRONMENT OR MAYBE EVEN, SHALL WE USE THE WORD, DISCRIMINATION. YOU HAVE TO REALIZE THE WORLD THAT WE LIVE IN. THE PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEMSELVES ARE THE ONES WHO ARE SURVIVING. DO YOU THINK THAT THE CAVE MEN WHO SURVIVED WERE THE ONES WHO SAT AROUND FEELING SORRY FOR THEMSELVES AND SAYING THINGS LIKE, "IT'S NOT MY FAULT -- THE WORLD MAMMOTH CRUSHED MY CLUB."

No, the ones who survived were the ones who made a new club.

## Rebellion is brewing

By Anahid Thompson  
and Rob Rains  
Co-editor-in-chief and co-opinion editor

Do you hear that sound? It's the sound of the drums pounding and Starbucks windows shattering as La Resistance demonstrates their might. The gray skies foreshadow anarchy. Government no longer holds order in a society where militia men burn their leaders at the stake. Do you hear the sound? It's the sound of revolution.

The seeds for a revolution have been planted. The shameless political mockery that has clouded our country's presidential election is the most outstanding example. With the nation divided over two political candidates who preach virtually the same rhetoric, it is no wonder people have become discontent with our two-party system of governing. But the post-election day chaos that has ensued is not the only enigma that ails American citizenry.

Thomas Jefferson once stated, "A little uprising is good for government. It keeps them on their toes." But what is a revolution? The stereotypical mass hysteria of rioting, burning and looting the city's streets usually comes to mind. The thought of Marilyn Manson fans with "anarchy" tattooed on their arms comes to mind, as does that crazy neighbor with all the Vietnam war memorabilia.

Truthfully, more people could have reason to revolt than originally fathomed. The impetus for revolution can be something as serious as states rights vs. federal rights (the catalyst for the Civil War), or something as simple as the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back, like the Stamp Act was to the American Revolution. The argument can be made that those were different times and that people would never rise up against the most economically prosperous country in the world, but different centuries or not, desperate times call

for desperate measures.

Our healthcare system is a disgrace. Sick and wounded patients are left to die slowly and painfully in waiting rooms across the country while doctors race to cut through red tape to receive and treat these people. Government officials promise welfare reform and suck more money out of Social Security. The Federal Department of Agriculture is currently missing more than \$100 million while racking up charges for items such as cars, wasting a staggering \$97 million. The Department of Education has mis-spent almost a half billion dollars while being unable to account for \$150 million lost in taxpayer money. Our leaders in Washington are so concerned with public education, an area in which

they have no jurisdiction. Did they simultaneously drop government classes and skip the day the French Revolution was taught in history class?

Sometimes the fire of rebellion is not ignited until that which is disabling hits too close to home. Minimum wage is severely disproportionate to the cost of living and American investment in foreign labor only furthers the call for revolution. With protests-turned-riots in Los Angeles in 1992 and Seattle last year, it has become violently apparent that people are truly disillusioned with the land of the free.

The question of how to alter the status quo remains perplexing. But little revolutions, revolutions of resistance are occurring everyday. Peaceful demonstrators such as Julia Butterfly, who refused to climb down a Redwood tree for the sake of the environment, is a prime example. Or Chicago students' refusal to take any more standardized tests in an effort to rock the bureaucracy. Not to mention Mike Moore's crusade against Nike and other corporations that exploit workers throughout the world. Every day, union workers chant in defiance of a democratic government that tries to stifle their voices with bureaucratic intervention consisting of false campaign promises and meaningless assurances.

Do you hear that sound? The Russians are coming.

The seeds for a revolution have been planted. The shameless political mockery that has clouded our country's presidential election is the most outstanding example.

Sometimes the fire of rebellion is not ignited until that which is disabling hits too close to home. Minimum wage is severely disproportionate to the cost of living and American investment in foreign labor only furthers the call for revolution. With protests-turned-riots in Los Angeles in 1992 and Seattle last year, it has become violently apparent that people are truly disillusioned with the land of the free.

The question of how to alter the status quo remains perplexing. But little revolutions, revolutions of resistance are occurring everyday. Peaceful demonstrators such as Julia Butterfly, who refused to climb down a Redwood tree for the sake of the environment, is a prime example. Or Chicago students' refusal to take any more standardized tests in an effort to rock the bureaucracy. Not to mention Mike Moore's crusade against Nike and other corporations that exploit workers throughout the world. Every day, union workers chant in defiance of a democratic government that tries to stifle their voices with bureaucratic intervention consisting of false campaign promises and meaningless assurances.

Do you hear that sound? The Russians are coming.

Alex Madorsky

THERE IS A LITTLE KNOWN BUT QUITE RADICAL PROVISION IN THE CONSTITUTION THAT CONGRESS DOES NOT WANT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT: NO ONE NEEDS CONGRESS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION! IF THREE-FOURTHS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURES VOTE TO CONVENE A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING THE 535 SAGES ON CAPITOL HILL CAN DO TO STOP THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FROM ALTERING THE HIGHEST LAW IN THE LAND. THE LATE SENATOR SAM ERVIN (D-NC) AND AUTHOR GORE VIDAL ARE INCLUDED IN THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY CALLED ON A MOVEMENT TO CONVENE A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

As Vidal has noted, the framers of the Constitution thought their document might be an immediate failure. Jefferson himself proposed a convention every 10 years because "you can't expect a man to wear a boy's jacket." However, a misinformed media and a government permanently on the defensive have convinced the masses that the Constitution is too holy a document for even Congress to amend. This idolatrous worship of a fallible document perverts democracy and entrenches elitist public policies. If a convention is called, the citizenry can take on all the controversial cultural issues with Constitutional overtones; gun control, abortion, the death penalty, flag burning, campaign finance reform and others will all have their day in the sun whilst debated by the people. A Constitutional convention would be an important first step to putting democracy back in the hands of the people and out of the hands of an impotent legislature.

Amy Broadbent

GOOD MORNING STUDENTS, THIS IS MR. GRIFFITH. BECAUSE OF RECENT THREATS TO SECURITY, STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO REMAIN INSIDE THE SCHOOL FOR LUNCH AND FREE PERIODS. ALL THE DOORS EXCEPT THE FRONT DOOR WILL BE LOCKED.

IT'S TUESDAY MORNING SECOND PERIOD, AND ANY SELF-RESPECTING SHAKER STUDENT'S WORST NIGHTMARE IS COMING TRUE. THANKFULLY, THE BELL RINGS IMMEDIATELY AND STUDENTS SPILL INTO THE HALLS. THEY GATHER IN SMALL GROUPS AND WHISPER EXCITEDLY. DID YOU HEAR?! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL THEY'RE KEEPING ME HERE!

BY THE END OF AN UNPRODUCTIVE THIRD PERIOD, STUDENTS ARE UNITED. MOST OF 4-5 PERIOD IS SPENT TRYING TO GET AN APPOINTMENT TO TALK TO MR. GRIFFITH ABOUT STUDENT CONCERN. IT SEEMS THAT THERE IS NO HOPE OF TALKING TO HIM UNTIL NEXT MONTH. TENSION IS MOUNTING IN THE SCHOOL, AND TEACHERS DON'T EVEN TRY TO KEEP THEIR CLASSES ON TASK. SHOUTS RISE UP FROM THE HALLWAYS, CALLING FOR A REVOLUTION.

WHEN THE BELL RINGS TO END FIFTH PERIOD, A HUSH FALLS OVER THE BUILDING. SHAKER HAS NEVER BEEN THIS QUIET BEFORE. IT'S THE DAWN OF A NEW BEGINNING, WHEN STUDENTS FINALLY HAVE A SAY IN THEIR SCHOOL. SUDDENLY, THERE IS A GREAT ROAR, AND ALL OF THE STUDENTS RISE SIMULTANEOUSLY AND STREAM INTO THE HALLWAYS.

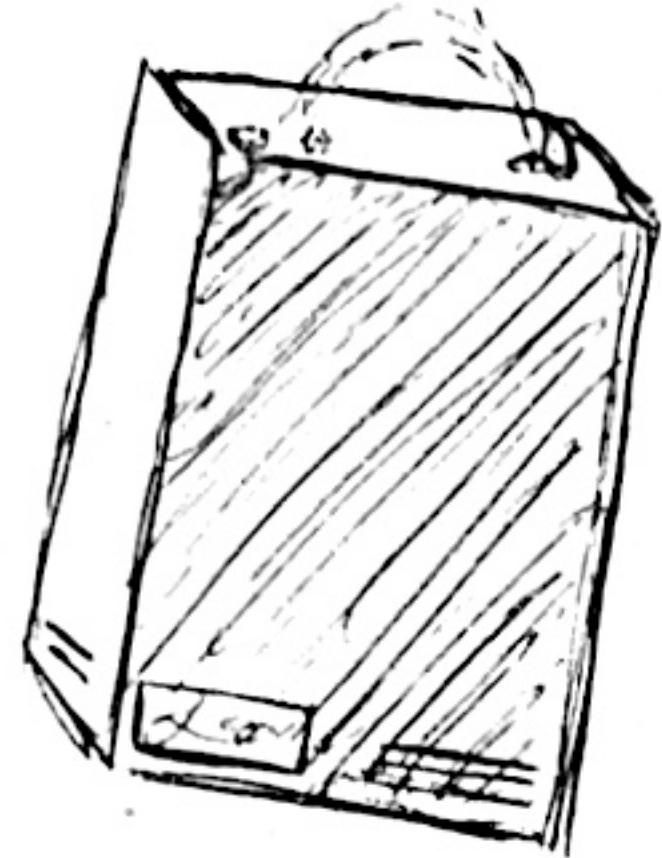
THE MASS OF HUMANITY RACES FOR THE DOORS AND BURSTS INTO THE SNOWY, OVERCAST CLEVELAND DAY. PAPERS FLY AND BACKPACKS ARE TOSSED INTO THE AIR. THE CRY FREEDOM! RINGS LOUDLY. THE ADMINISTRATORS STAND SADLY AT THE DOOR, WATCHING THE BACKS OF QUICKLY VANISHING STUDENTS AND CARS. JUST WAIT TILL TOMORROW, STUDENTS WILL BE BACK, GRIFFITH SAYS.

# Best of the high school

By Rebecca Wolff and Liza Moody  
Feature Co-editors

We scoured the school for the best of the best. The best of what, you may ask. The best of everything from best item in the vending machine to best way to get out of class. We spent hours after school, talking to

students to find out if they disagreed or agreed with our opinions. After two weeks of grueling work, we have finally compiled a list for your reading pleasure. So see for yourself, in the very first feature: best of the high school.



**BEST DRINKING FOUNTAIN**  
the one near room 222  
**WHY?** the water is cool and refreshing with a taste that reminds us of a Vermont spring  
**DISAGREE:** "The one outside the new gym, that's the only one that's always cold." Kristen King, junior

## BEST WAY TO GET AROUND SLOW PEOPLE IN THE HALLWAY

check people into lockers  
**WHY?** take a lesson from our school's hockey players, but beware of being put in the penalty box

**BEST HALLWAY**  
outside the multi-purpose room  
**WHY?** walls are covered in white tile reminding us of a bathroom, never crowded

## BEST DISPLAY CASE

YEH, outside of room 270  
**WHY?** colorful and the pyramid of food cans was very impressive

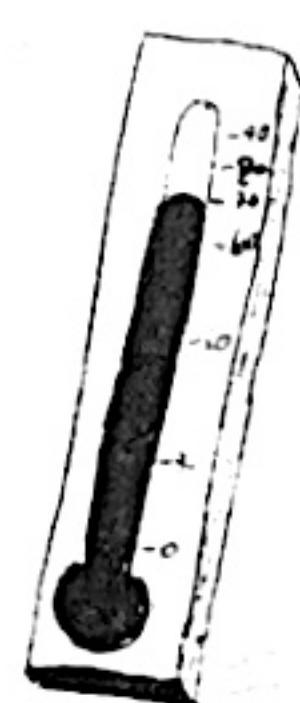


## BEST TABLE IN THE LUNCHROOM

by the window, near the vending machines  
**WHY?** easy access to your choice of drinks and snacks as well as a lovely view of students outside

## BEST MEN'S BATHROOM

third floor  
**WHY?** never crowded and always clean  
**NOTE:** this bathroom was chosen based on information compiled by male members of our staff



## BEST TEMPERATURE REGULATED CLASSROOM

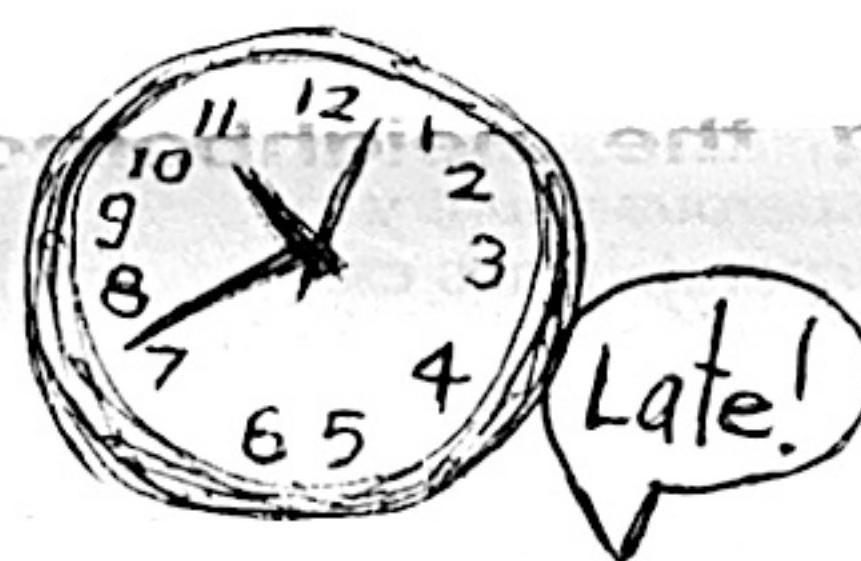
room 118, across from the book room  
**WHY?** its cool in the summer and warm in the winter

## BEST CLASSROOM

planetarium  
**WHY?** you can sleep under the dome and the seats are cushioned  
**DISAGREE:** "Mr. Slov's room (101) because of the mural." Jessica Hoffman, junior

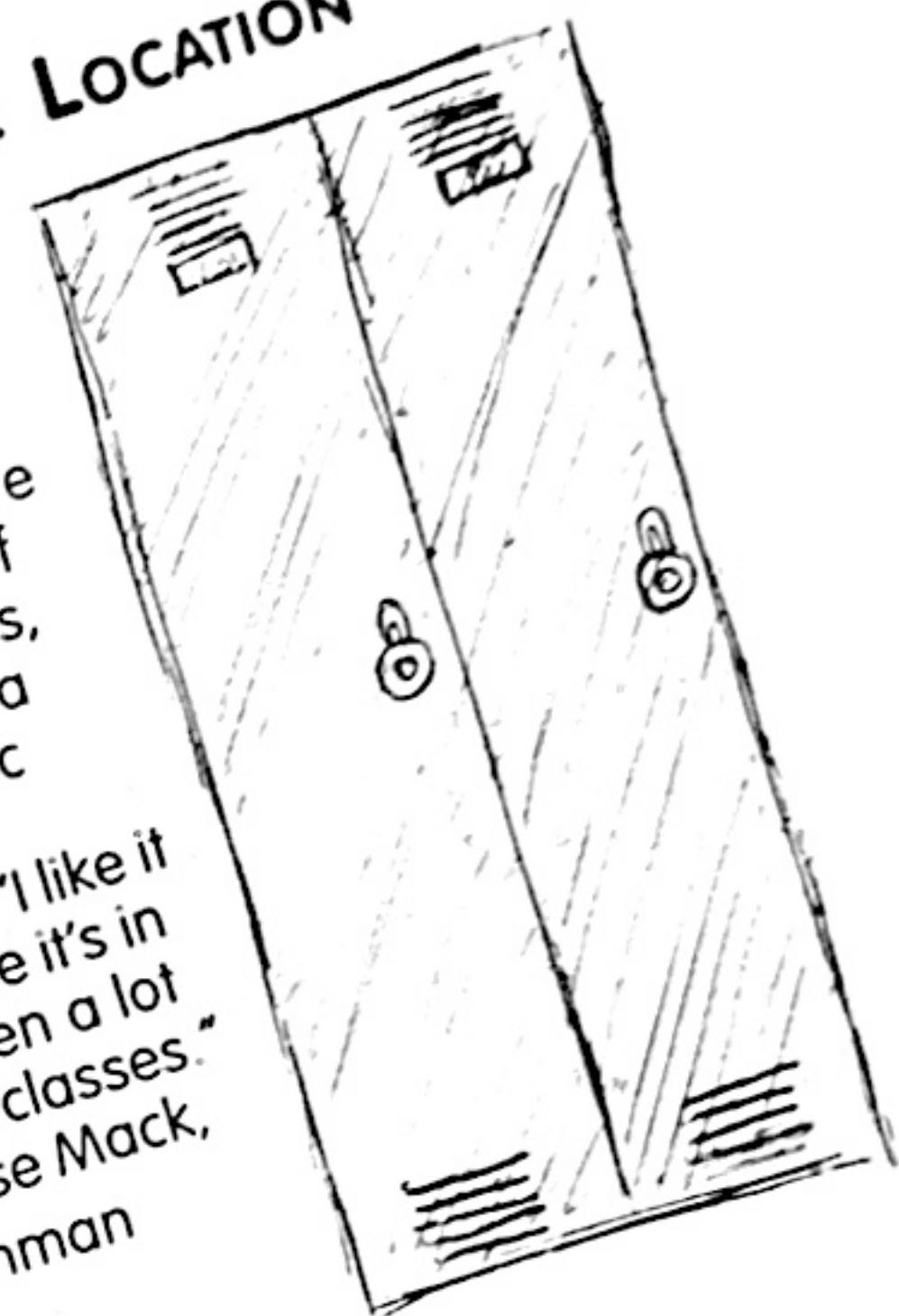
## BEST WOMEN'S BATHROOM

near room 221  
**WHY?** clean and didn't smell  
**AGREE:** "The one next to the German room 'cause it has automatic sinks and it's nice and clean." Renata Pruitt, sophomore



## BEST LOCKER LOCATION

by room 230  
**WHY?** on the second floor where most students have a majority of their classes, but not in a high traffic area  
**AGREE:** "I like it because it's in between a lot of my classes." Denise Mack, freshman

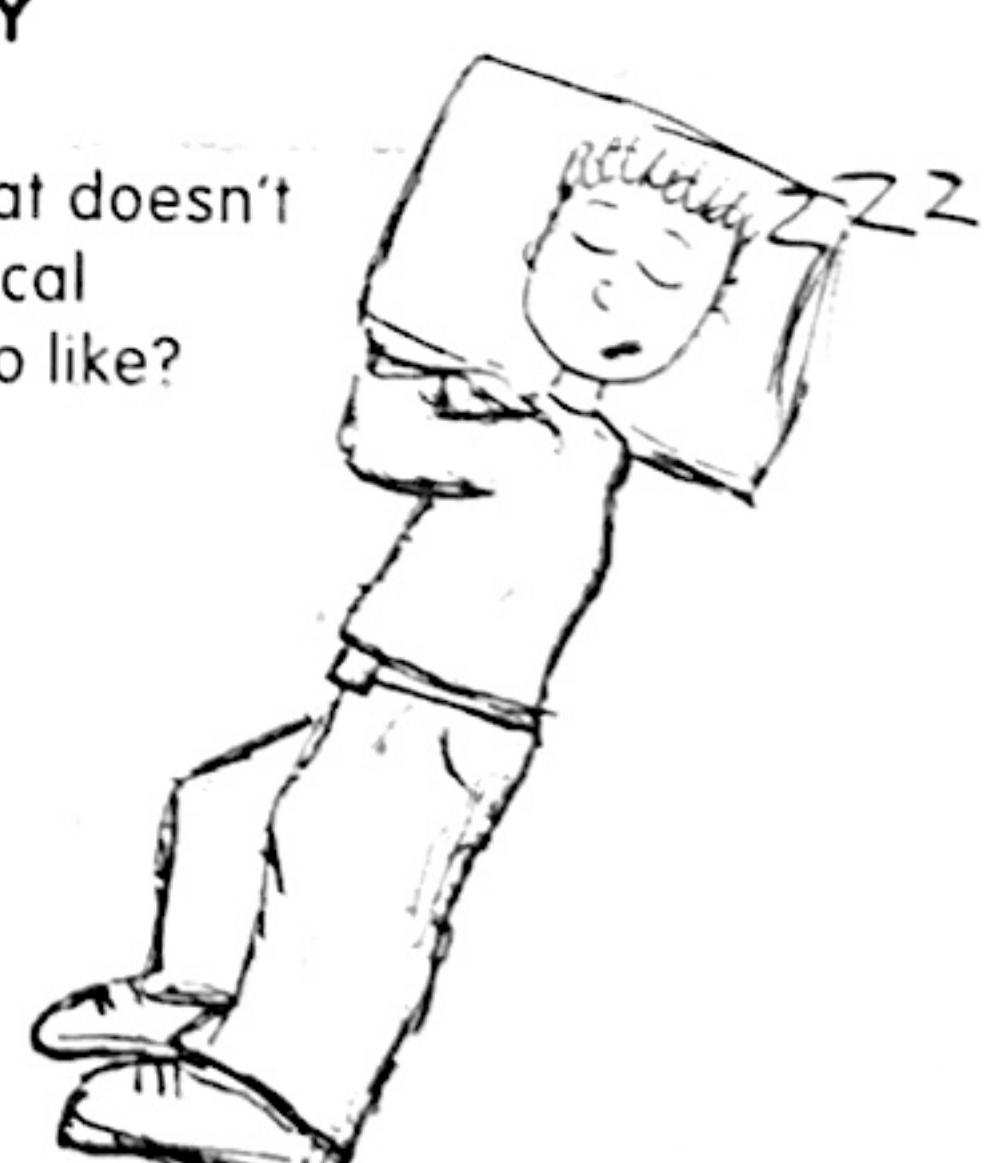


## BEST EXCUSE FOR BEING LATE TO CLASS

they locked all the side doors  
**WHY?** one of the only excuses you can make up that's actually believable  
**AGREE:** "See, what had happened was... I had been playing outside in the snow and they locked the door." Dave Rupp, junior

## BEST PARKING SPACE

right outside the science wing  
**WHY?** its the closest you get to the one of the school doors without your parents dropping you off



## BEST GYM ACTIVITY

stress management  
**WHY?** a gym class that doesn't actually involve physical exertion; what's not to like?

## To Shaker's theater department, Lewis is the newest

•Renowned actor Brandon Lewis hits our halls this year

**By Francesca Klein**  
Staff Reporter

For many actors, the portrayal of a character is more important than the reaction of the audience. But for Brandon Lewis, the ability to change the emotions of his audience is what makes acting special.

"I love the response I get from the audience, the ability I have to control their emotions," Lewis said. "They tell me if I am doing my job."

A new student to Shaker, Lewis is a junior who transferred from the Cleveland School of the Arts at the beginning of this school year. "It was actually a surprise when I was told that I was going to the high school this year," Lewis said. "We had moved to Shaker awhile back, I just had never transferred. But I had heard of [theater department head] Mr. Thornton and that Shaker had an excellent theater department. So I thought, 'OK, maybe I can contribute to Shaker.'"

Lewis may be new to Shaker's stage but his theater experience goes back to his elementary days. He first graced

the stage at age eight in the production of *The Wizard of Oz* at his elementary school, Newton D. Baker School of Performing Arts.

"I got to play a variety of roles — the mayor, a munchkin and the lion," he recalled. The Baker School of Performing Arts is known for its strong theater program and is often acknowledged as the junior school of Cleveland School of the Arts. Lewis was attracted there because he was given the opportunity to do theater and dance shows as well as play the piano, flute and sing.

Eventually Lewis ended up at Cleveland School of the Arts, where he participated in

such plays as *The Christmas Carol*, *Through the Looking Glass* and *The African Theater Festival*. He even put together a fashion show with the help of a teacher.

Lewis continued at the Cleveland Playhouse, where he performed in many shows including *Black Snowman*, *Lion King of Mali*, *Sundiata*, *Big Anthony* and *The Magic Ring*.

"He is an exuberant actor who takes on any role with the greatest of ease," said Ray Williams, a junior at Cleveland School of the Arts.

Although Lewis has been

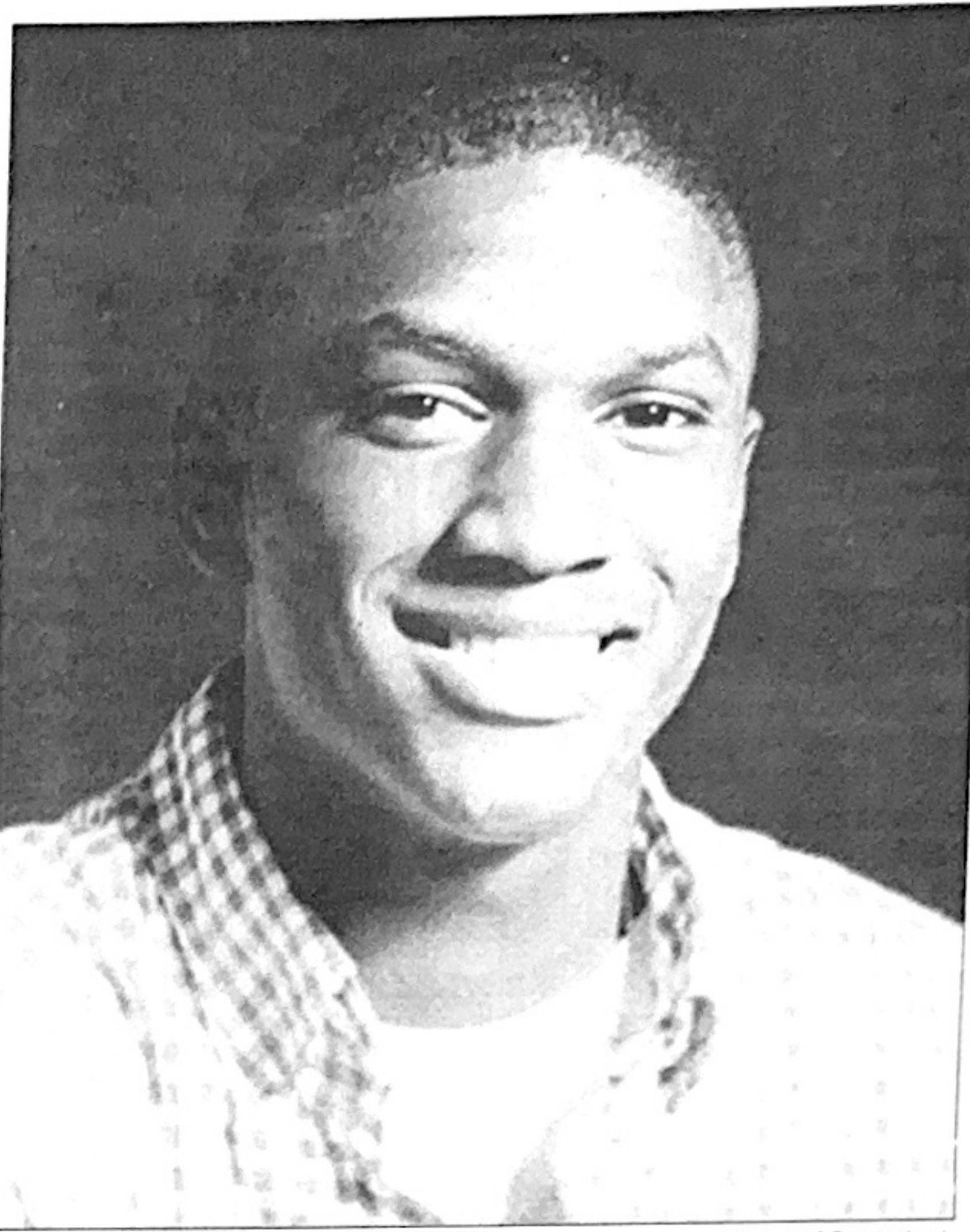
involved in many theater programs, there is one that is especially important to him. The Reading Company was a program started by Project ACT, with the goal of encouraging literacy. One Thursday of every month, Lewis travels with The Reading Company to local homeless shelters and acts out stories from children's books that have been revised into scripts.

"I love it. It's an excellent program," Lewis said. "It captures the joy of reading for children and their families. Although we know the lines, we carry the books to instill in kids that reading is fun."

Lewis also auditioned for the movie, *Finding Forrester*, last spring. Had he gotten the part, he would have co-starred with the acclaimed actor Sean Connery.

"I do remember the plot. I would have played a great basketball player who didn't have a father figure, was very bright but needed some guidance. Sean Connery would have played that father figure," Lewis said.

You wouldn't know it, but Lewis claims he is still trying to adapt to Shaker's theater



Courtesy of Brandon Lewis

Lewis smiles for his photo submission for the Great American Model and Talent Search of America in July of 2000. He landed several modeling and acting jobs from this contest including a GAP commercial audition and a runway show in NYC.

bring new things to the theater department," said junior Robin Sadler, "He has the ability."

"Theater to me is something that I feel I was born to do. I was put on earth to perform and entertain," Lewis said.

"Hopefully Brandon will

## Mr. Rogers is leaving the neighborhood

**By Lia Silver**  
Centerpiece Co-editor

What would childhood be like without the Land of Make-Believe, Lady Elaine and a singing man who always wears sweaters? It would be a childhood without *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*!

"T.V. wouldn't be the same without Mister Rogers," junior Alana Wyche said. "Even though there are cartoons, Mister Rogers is real. He did real things."

Though the king of children's television is retiring, Fred Rogers still plans on being an important part of the next generation of children's lives. He will soon film the last week of his television series, *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. The Public Broadcasting System will continue to play re-runs, and local stations will have the option of airing them. The last set of new shows is scheduled to show Aug. 27-31, 2001.

Hedda Sharapan, an associate producer on *Mister Rogers* since its debut in 1966, insists that Rogers will be a busy man.

Rogers recently wrote a book, *The Giving Box*, that features multi-cultural folktales about giving. He also plans to create a sky show for planetariums and will continue to work on his websites, [www.misterrogers.org](http://www.misterrogers.org) and

**Fastweb.com:** Find out what college scholarships you're eligible for in a range of categories.

**askjeeves.com:** Just type in your question and ask! You can find answers and websites linked to your question.

**curious george.com:** This is a cool site featuring games, e-cards and everything you ever wanted to know about Curious George.

**the onion.com:** Check up on your daily mock news and remember news can be funny too.

[www.pbs.org/rogers](http://www.pbs.org/rogers)

Rogers, 72, knew he wanted a career like this since he was a college senior when he realized that most shows for children were "nonsense," Sharapan said. Rogers went on to work behind the scenes of *Children's Corner* before establishing his own legendary television show.

Rogers wrote all of the show's scripts himself and reviewed the themes with child development experts. According to Sharapan, Rogers has always been dedicated to making his show educational and meaningful.

"He was not an actor," Sharapan said. "He spent lots of time with children to understand how to talk to them."

So how do students remember their childhood with Mister Rogers?

"The trolley car was the best part of the show," sophomore Ashli Robinson said. "I liked the singing, and the stories and the king."

According to Sharapan growing-up doesn't have to stop people from tuning in.

"I've gotten calls and e-mails from high school students saying that they appreciate Mister Rogers more now, and that he's been a role model for them," she said. "They watch it on a bad day and it makes them feel better."

Pictures courtesy of [www.misterrogers.org](http://www.misterrogers.org)



Snow White

**Websites**  
Check out Shaker's most useful and most fun picks

**lifetimetv.com:** Take this silly test and find out which Golden Girl you're most like.

**amihot.com:** People from around the world send their pictures to this site and let other people rate them. Some of the pictures are very humorous and it's fun to rate them.

Want to submit a website you've found and loved, or is really helpful? Submit your websites to Ms. Sekicky's mailbox in the office! Please put your name, the website address and a brief description. Remember, the Shaker Heights High School network is controlled by a firewall, so please only submit things that would be acceptable. Thank you!



# SPORTS

The Best of Shaker

Check out our picks for the best in the building

6



**By Marianne Cronin**  
Sports Co-editor

## Setting the record straight

You may have noticed the numerous errors in last month's sports section.

My co-editor, Eric, and I displayed poor journalistic judgment in gathering information, as we failed to contact coaches and instead used our own inclinations. These inclinations were inevitably misguided and the lack of a reliable source made our information susceptible to error.

In our winter sports preview, the players to watch compilation was laden with mistakes. We chose to ask players, instead of coaches, which athletes were deserving of mention. Students could have easily told us their own names, or the names of their friends, in order to ensure they appeared in the section. Regardless, Eric and I are at fault.

Last month, we made choices that jeopardized both our own integrity and that of the newspaper. Not only did we sacrifice the reputation of the sports section, but tarnished the credibility of *The Shakerite* as a whole.

The errors in November's issue were the product of Eric's and my mistakes and we regret any affect that it may have had on the reputation of this paper.

We apologize to all of the coaches who were not contacted for the story. This shortcoming in our reporting simply does not measure up to what's needed to produce a sports section. The lack of an authoritative sports opinion was sorely missed.

We also apologize for the lack of intuition we have shown in our own sports opinions. We regret all of our editorial mistakes and hope that you will read our corrections box on this page.

To all athletes, we apologize for the lack of recognition in the preview story. As athletes ourselves, we know the frustrations of not being commended for achievements.

Finally, we apologize to the students and staff of Shaker Heights High School for the misrepresentation of the admirable reputation of this newspaper. We hope that in the future, our section will be read and enjoyed by everyone—athletes and non-athletes; students, teachers and coaches.

Again, we express regret for our poor decisions and lack of journalistic responsibility.

## Shaker sports teams boast impressive vacation schedules

**By Marianne Cronin**  
Sports Co-editor

To many of us, winter break means sleeping in, late nights and holiday celebrations. However, to many Shaker athletes the two-week vacation means practice, training and a chance to take their competition across state lines.

The swim team is preparing for its bi-annual trip to Florida. Both men and women swimmers undergo intense training while simultaneously trying to promote team unity.

"Going to Florida brings the team together," junior Jeff Giertz said. "It's a wonderful opportunity for us to get to know each other while training at top notch facilities in a focused atmosphere."

Although the diving team will be staying in Shaker, they will be continuing practice as usual.

"I'm disappointed that we're not going to Florida," junior Kelly Murphy said. "But we'll be getting ready for districts."

The men's basketball team is heading to a tournament in Binghamton, New York. The Raiders are not only anticipating a 15 hour bus ride, but an impressive showing as well.

"It will be good to challenge other teams outside of the LEL," junior guard D'Veron Harris said.

The hockey team will be participating in the annual Thornton Park Hockey Tournament this weekend. The Raiders will be taking the ice with other area teams including rivals St. Edwards and Padua. They will play in the Cleveland Heights Tournament on Dec. 26.

"Playing in the tournaments should be good for the team," junior Elliot Lyons said. "We should do well against the other teams."

The wrestling team will also be kept busy during break, be-

*"It's a wonderful chance for us to get to know each other while training at top notch facilities."*

JEFF GIERTZ

junior

"We are looking forward to the tournaments," junior Lamar Miller said. "But the daily practices will help a lot."

The women's basketball team will be heading to Cincinnati for the Mason Tournament, on Dec. 26.

"We are playing some of the best teams in Ohio," sophomore Erika Neal said. "And we're going to win!"

The wrestling team will also be kept busy during break, be-

Name: Kelly Murphy

Year: Junior

Sport: Diving

Coach's Comment:  
"She's a hard worker, and she should qualify for states." -Matthew Lewis, head coach

Teammate's Comment:  
"Kelly sets a really good example for the younger divers." -Ashley Wood, freshman



Eric Edelsberg/The Shakerite  
Kelly Murphy dives at practice.

Name: Darrell White

Year: Junior

Sport: Basketball

Coach's Comment:  
"He's one of the better juniors in Northeast Ohio." -Bob Wonson, head coach

Teammate's Comment:  
"He's one of our best big men when he gets the ball down low, it's a guaranteed two points." -Noah Williams, junior



Marianne Cronin/The Shakerite  
Darrell White works hard at practice.

*The hockey team practices in anticipation for the Thornton Park Hockey Tournament, which takes place this weekend.*

### Corrections on November's Players To Watch

**Men's Basketball:** Terrell Brown, Darrell White, Alex Wynn-Turner, Noah Williams, Jameson Evans

**Women's Basketball:** Tracy Jacobs, Kendra Agee, Nicole Holloway, Inshirah Grimes

**Women's Swimming:** Ellis Schieman, Lizzie Burns, Claire Dietrich, Melisa Jimmison, Caryn Weingart, Jessica Burns, Lynne Hoppe, Katie O'Brien, Emily Tetzlaff, Katie Wamsley

**Hockey:** Matt Bartley, Carson Strang, Johnny Dingle, Dan Koletsky, Matt Wallace

**Wrestling:** Lamar Miller, Brandon Kee, Hassan Adebese, Brian Makley

**Men's Swimming:** Jeff Giertz, Seth Rosenberg, J.R. Siegel, Cleveland Brown, Chris Ryder, Matt Schieman

**Diving:** Kelly Murphy, Ashley Davies

## Murphy, White are Raiders of the Month

Name: Kelly Murphy

Year: Junior

Sport: Diving

Coach's Comment:  
"She's a hard worker, and she should qualify for states." -Matthew Lewis, head coach

Teammate's Comment:  
"Kelly sets a really good example for the younger divers." -Ashley Wood, freshman

Name: Darrell White

Year: Junior

Sport: Basketball

Coach's Comment:  
"He's one of the better juniors in Northeast Ohio." -Bob Wonson, head coach

Teammate's Comment:  
"He's one of our best big men when he gets the ball down low, it's a guaranteed two points." -Noah Williams, junior